Critical reflections on Chaos-Gnostic Satanism

16. 8.2013 E.V. DIES VENERIIS 109 NEW AEON

Content

Critical Reflections on Chaos-Gnostic Satanism 2

Introduction 2

Chaos-Gnostic Philosophy 4

Choronzon and 11 8

Chaos, Chaos, Chaos 11

Different and alternative views of the Universe 12

The principle of Destruction 13

The dynamics of hope and giving up 14

Critical Reflections on Chaos-Gnostic Satanism

Currently, since Millennium passed, one unique and very syncretistic ideology has become very popular especially among Metalheads and wannabe-occultists. That is called Chaos-Gnostic Satanism, emerging from Sweden and brought into common consciousness first by The MLO (Misanthropic Luciferian Order, currently The Temple of the Black Light) and then by extension by a band called Dissection, titling their music *"The Anti-Cosmic Metal of Death"*. Their lead-singer, guitarist, main composer and frontman Jon Nödtveidt ended his life ritualistically by suicide in 16.8.2006 e.v. which (arguably) made the band even more popular and all kinds of "Chaos-influenced" bands emerged around the globe as a cause, many of them (in my opinion) subconsciously wishing to be "like Jon was". Dissection had just ended their comeback tour since Nödtveidt's release from prison where he was from 1997 e.v. to 2004 e.v.

Introduction

First, before entering more into detail in this text, I wish to make clear the standing point. The writer (me) is **not** a Chaos-Gnostic Satanist Initiate but has been like many others considering whether to explore that path in practice or not, coming to conclusions which have led to that it hasn't become a part of his path and it seems at the moment that it won't most likely ever will. It also needs to be made clear that the writer is not only a theoretical philosopher on the field of occultism but has been

practicing occultism since 2007 e.v. The distinction between mere theory and theory combined with practice is evident for anyone who practices occultism seriously and has integrated occultism an inseparable part of his/her being. How-ever; if these previously mentioned facts are a barrier for you to take this text seriously then it may be advisable to go read something else, like the texts of MLO/TOBL with every second or third word being an adjective like *"Mighty", "Terrible", "Sinister", "Wrathful"* or *"Chaotic"* and see if you can get more practical value out of all that. What I wish to express and what is the whole meaning of this text is to argue and show certain valid viewpoints to this matter with which I believe many others may identify with if they haven't already done so. When changing opinions and viewpoints with the fellow occultists I have noticed that some indeed have. I also wish to share these ideas since I have for a long time felt this particular topic to be very interesting and the contemplation of the questions and dualistic juxtapositions therein to be very fruitful and essential.

When it comes to Aleister Crowley I need to say that I confess that he is a big influence of mine and from the very beginning I saw that one of the challenges would be not to quote Crowley too much and to make the text readable also for those who are not familiar with his work. This included avoiding complex Crowleyan terminology in too big quantity and if doing so then explaining at least in short what the term(s) mean(s). I have also tried to guide the reader to "side paths" of study where I have thought that bringing certain elements in too big quantity would be too much unnecessary "*off-topic*" for the text. Also not in all cases have I felt myself to at the moment possess enough knowledge about the subject to write about the matter in question.

Concerning Occultism it needs to be said that while this Sacred Art can work as a gateway to wisdom and illumination it can also become a tool to use in ones escapist dream. Therefore I think it's absolutely essential to bring up when needed the dangers of that kind of thinking which leads not to wisdom but to fallacy and illusion. I personally think that the Chaos-Gnostic Philosophy is filled with this kind of false and illusory paradigms which would instantly be burned down and shattered if the light of truth and wisdom would only be let in. I will illustrate reasons for this later in the text. Despite feeling so strongly about this subject I also need to address that I also need to say that I don't think that what I say is necessarily something coming from the mouth (or hands…) of some prophet of Truth but only from a modern era seeker and Initiate. Therefore it is as always recommendable that one will do one's own conclusions and take what I say only as my own reflections. Despite that and for my defence it still has to be said that I still just might from a subjective viewpoint hit it right to the core. So, what I write is partial and imperfect but it might still help you and take you there where

it is needed. You need to come to the half-way with me. Lastly, as a technical curiosity I wish to mention that I began writing this text on Dies Veneriis 16.8.2013 e.v. and finished it on Dies Mercurii 21.8.2013 e.v. After that I did a lot of editing in many occasions but the grounding work was finished inside the previously mentioned dates.

Chaos-Gnostic Philosophy

The mythological foundation of Chaos-Gnostic Philosophy as I see it is based on the old Sumerian Tradition and to the myth of Enuma Elish. Strong dualism between primal Chaos and Cosmic Order is the core juxtaposition. Ancient "good" [*sic!*] Gods and bastard newer (still old…) Gods. The philosophy is "Anti-Cosmic" since the purpose is to destroy the causal cosmic structure(s). Gnostic Influence is to be seen in the kind of thinking where matter and structure is seen as bad and "unwanted". The Universe is hence a mistake and an error. This thought being extended into the Qabalistic context the whole of Tree of Life is "bad" and therefore they embrace the "Qabalah of Satan". To this matter the writer acknowledges that he has no further immediate reflection and knowledge about so he decides to leave it there and not to analyse it further. Despite that the reflections so far are concisely logical and coherent. One may dig all this deeper but this is the surface. The strict dualities are extended on the level too where the "man of fire" is from their point of view superior to the "man of clay". The main difference that separates these two is that of the "Black Light" which is the fuel of one's aspiration, and with which the first one is born and the second one is not. The term "Black Light" originates from the Left Hand Path-terminology. Anyone practicing occultism seriously knows that the first challenges that one most likely will encounter are concerning the Ego. It is a very interesting point to make that one with a very strong ego might be in trouble resisting the call of MLO/TOBL-philosophy since its juxtapositions are elitistically so strong. One might think that "*If I refuse I am not strong!"* or that "*If I refuse I am not a Man of Fire but a Man of Clay!"* There is no loss to be suffered in rejecting this philosophy. It is just that one will not be internally destroyed. It does not remove the existence of destruction to say that one has "*sacrificed oneself at the Altar of Azerate*". It is still about the destruction of oneself. Reasons for this will become more obvious as the text goes forward. Of course one may sacrifice oneself esoterically like Aleister Crowley did before defeating Choronzon in 1909 e.v. (more about this later) but one should know what one is doing and I am trying to explain in this text why I think that the Initiates of MLO/TOBL do not know.

To begin, I would say that the origins of Chaos-Gnostic Satanism are three-fold:

1.) **Chaos** – from Sumerian mythology the state/"place" where to return.

2.) **Gnostic** – forming a fundamentally negative world-view. Origin = Good, Universe = Bad. Referring also to a Gnostic view that one should reach Knowledge/Gnosis about ones origin - in this context about Chaos – referring to Sumerian Mythology.

3.) **Satanism** – referring to the Left-Hand Path-orientation. Left Hand Path-initiates being in many contexts called Satanists and their most common symbol being the inverted Pentagram.

The Inverted Pentagram

As the main Order of any specific Current is essential in channelling the forces of the Current I will also dissect and analyse the name MLO in a following way:

1.) **Misanthropic** – since the Universal Cosmic structure is seen as an error thus it is so with the by-product "micro-universe" Man - "the image of God" - hate then being the fuel and the will to destroy and end it.

2.) **Luciferian** – The Analysis of Lucifer-Satan is deeply metaphysical in this context and I'm not satisfied with the level of output from my side so I will keep silence and not show my current relative ignorance on this subject so I will skip this. I wish I would have access to the site of The Temple of the Black Light to read the text again concerning this. Excuse me.

3.) **Order** – Possibly referring to the "religious" [*sic!*] nature of the group (even more so in the latter expression "Temple") and in its drive towards a common goal.

I would dissect the name Temple of the Black Light in this way:

1.) **Temple** – Since the Order had reached its full membership (11 members) it is now closed and therefore it is appropriate to call it a temple to underline its "holiness". It is also possibly referring to the use of ritual magic where the internal temple manifests in an external temple.

2.) (of) **The Black Light** – Referring to the strongly individual Left-Hand Path-oriented direction/current of the Temple to which it is founded on.

The MLO/The Temple of the Black Light have gathered in order destroy - internally and externally (hermetic microcosm/macrocosm). They declare: *"In order to have chaos one must first have order".* Despite that - this is not a contradiction, in truth - the Chaos-Gnostic philosophy encourages one to destroy structure in any place where it is possible. Here I wish to quote now-a-days so famous Aleister Crowley (1875-1947) - who (IMO) compared to the Chaos-Gnostic Initiates was a **real** magician - very well once said:

"It sometimes strikes me that the whole of science is a piece of impudence; that nature can afford to ignore our impertinent interference. If our monkey mischief should ever reach the point of blowing up the earth by decomposing an atom, and even annihilated the sun himself, I cannot really suppose that the universe would turn a hair."

One might think that I am taking the quote out of context and that it doesn't have much to do with what I'm trying to say but I'll explain how it does. It is very flattering for the Ego to think that one is doing something "*good"* (in this context: Something in the end uplifting for the subject) for some higher entity/idea/principle when one is actually not doing anything which would challenge oneself or anything constructive (or in this context: destructive…). I don't think that Universe really turns a

hair even if 11 Chaos-Gnostic Satanists would gather in their chambers and invoke and evoke who-knows-what and I think there are many other theoretical and practical viewpoints to support this idea (more about this later). If wannabe-Dissection fan boy-Satanists – to whom I believe that the actual Occultist Initiates have most likely already fed up since 2006 e.v. - go out, fight, drink and "worship Chaos" (whatever that might mean in this context?) – I don't think the mighty Universe could care less. Go and watch a Lovecraft-movie instead: There the portals actually open in a large scale but in the real world it's many times just "*wish-for*" and food for one's romantic thought despite a very active modern occult zeitgeist… But you cannot just decide:

"Okay! I don't like this Universe so now I will **DESTROY *IT*!"**

Grow up.

Yes, one may kill one homosexual (like Nödtveidt did) or do "*Breiviks*" with 77 people or to explode a nuclear bomb… but there will be more and more to destroy in the vast Universe - just believe me. Get something better do and get out of your infantile hate towards the Demiurge/YHVH and get okay with yourself. The mythological messages should be taken and reflected very deeply before rushing "out there" to declare what "side" you have chosen in your "holy war" [*sic!*]. There is an occult law that you will see in others what you are yourself and a deep discontent towards other is mostly caused by instability in one's microcosm. Get yourself in harmony and stop blaming others or even the whole Universe. Actually, when I think about it, this seems absurdly logical: If one is misanthropic then it would be logical to hate oneself too since one forms a single unit of humanity. Then, since you hate yourself, you also hate others. How-ever, if you destroy others you destroy yourself. On the other hand I don't think that the metal community cares a lot about this kind of actual paradigms. They just say that they worship death and chaos because every other cool person does so too in their "scene". Who cares about the Soul? *"The lyrics sound so cool the way are in this song, listen…"* - read between the lines what I mean… I should, on the other hand, say that Dissection had one true notion of illumination: They criticized the "metal community Satanists" who "want to just have fun and drink beer" (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m--9hnacETM). The criticism is profound but just because others should or could be criticized it doesn't mean that the criticizer him-/herself is not subject to criticism also and so I am "verbally attacking" **both** metalheads **and** chaos-gnostic Satanists all alike. I also think that many who criticize others sometimes do it by their own insecurity towards themselves. The logic goes: *"I drag others down so I am relatively lifted (compared to others)!"* Whether if this applies to Dissection is for you to decide. I am just offering a viewpoint. One could

maybe say that I am taking the self-criticism "too far" by thinking it this deep. Maybe it would ring true in mundane life in mundane circumstances but a true occultist needs to be alert with this kind of delusions and traps of the Ego. You may of course argue that I am myself criticizing Chaos-Gnostic Satanism only out of insecurity. I think that would be an easy way-to-go to deny all the viewpoints offered in this text if you are escapistic and in denial by nature: Do what thou wilt!

Choronzon and 11

This section of the text is complicated and it really couldn't be anything else as it is about the demon Choronzon that the Initiates of MLO/TOBL invoke in their rituals. I have many sides from where to tackle the questions raised herein. First I will quote the lyrics of Jon Nödtveidt from his and Dissection's last album *"Reinkaos"* (that Dissection called *"The Sonic Invocation of the Endless Dark Aeon")* and the song *"Starless Aeon"* where he sings: *"Daath - wisdom of the abyss is the key to the broken star"*. Here I think are raised many essential major questions and points from which one may pour out a lots of (real) wisdom. First of all: Da'ath which is the 11th Sephirah at the Qabalistic Tree of Life is not called Wisdom but Knowledge. The most famous encountering of the Demon Choronzon that dwells in Da'ath was made by Aleister Crowley with Victor Neuburg in 1909 era vulgari and more of it can be read in *The Vision and the Voice* (also known as *Liber 418*) and more specifically from Crowley's visions in the 10th Aethyr called ZAX. One could also read about the encountering from Richard Kaczynski's *"Perdurabo: The Life of Aleister Crowley"* (p. 198-202) where he gives an excellent description of the details of the event. I understand that a Gnostic may see Knowledge (Gnosis) as wisdom since traditional Gnostics yarn return for Pleroma (fullness) through achieving consciousness of their divine origin but Choronzon does not bring wisdom even though one may tend to think so. Also, Qabalistically it is the 2nd Sephirah Chokmah that is called Wisdom, just to be precise. Choronzon is not really a person/persona but a pseudo-personification, like Da'ath isn't a Sephirah but a pseudo-Sephirah which doesn't really fit into the Tree of Life since Knowledge isn't really "*a thing*" *per se* but constantly changing and dynamic and hence fragmentary and destructible. Choronzon is the Lord of Hallucinations, symbolizing dispersion and madness and changing faces and forms while having no substance therein. I do not analyse it too much here since trying to analyse that which makes no sense by definition causes only confusion and not clarity. The Temple of the Black Light has taken a very elitist-sounding and arrogant approach, somehow not surprisingly to me, saying that their writings are on the Internet to "*confuse the feebleminded*." Excuse

me, but yes: One may say that Occultism can sometimes be really damn complex and one may stretch ones brains with intellectualism (especially with Qabalah) quite a lot if one wants and to have people around amazed wondering how lucid spheres one must have reached as one is understanding such complex concepts but dealing with Choronzon leads exactly to this kind of results: Illusion that one has found something so great that others - "The stupid ones/men of clay" - cannot find and understand, yet leads to result like suicide (like in the case of Nödtveidt). Choronzon wishes nothing but destruction, yet it may tempt otherwise for example by feeding ones ego with tempting words and someone who hasn't faced the first challenges of occult path (like a typical average metalhead or a "glamour"-struck Chaos-Gnostic Satanist) will surely be but prey to its cunning plans. Actually, if one would really **understand** (the 3rd Sephirah Binah means "Understanding) in the actual technical meaning of the word then one would actually cross the so-called Abyss where Choronzon is located. Also, even though they claim that destruction and sacrifice is the thing that they do they actually kind of fear that: Understanding (Love) would destroy these would-be-Black Brothers and allow them to expand in union with others, freeing them from the limits of their individuality/ego but their path is of a totally different nature: that of a Sorcerer/Black Magician. Aleister Crowley pointed out that there are two kind of silences: positive and negative. The positive one is the one with which Aleister Crowley left Choronzon in shame while it tried to delude Crowley and Neuburg with its lies and the negative one is of "shutting up" and that of the Black Brothers. I think this is a very interesting and crucial point to make at this point.

"Those who never was [sic!] born but whose darkness eternally
Devastated the goodness built up through millenniums
No time passed, our victory is eternal
Our scorn, our silence"
- *Dissection: Night's Blood*

Warning! Crowley- and Thelema-terminology ahead! Skip this if this is a problem!

P.S. At this point I must point out that I am conscious of the dangers of using the terms "Black Brother", "Left-Hand Path Initiate" and a "Black Magician" in such a way which would – if not mislead the reader – at least not satisfy myself concerning the quality of the text. The reader is recommended to read the chapter XI from "*Magick without Tears*" by Aleister Crowley (http://hermetic.com/crowley/magick-without-tears/mwt_12.html) where he makes clear distinctions between those three categories. I don't personally feel myself to be totally "Crowley-attached"

concerning these definitions and I feel free to explain my point in my own words and through my own thoughts. Crowley said that one should not invoke Choronzon before doesn't have any weak spot in one's being and the Initiates of MLO/TOBL clearly view Choronzon differently and don't see there to be a danger of such a high risk as Crowley did. To invoke Choronzon too early would be to become devoured by it and to have ones parts shatter and get lost into the Abyss. This is a risk of a very high level of Initiation where the crucial juxtaposition is that either the Initiate becomes the Magister Templi 8○ =3□". (Master of the Temple) or a Black Brother. The main difference that differentiates these two is between Love and Restriction (in Thelemic terms: BABALON-CHORONZON). The would-be-magister-templi gives all he or she is (by pouring "the blood of the saints" into "the Holy Grail") and becomes "The Babe of the Abyss" and is later reborn as Magister Templi in the "City of the Pyramids" whereas the Black Brother restricts him-/herself, fearing change and love and so does not cross the Abyss and reach the third Sephirah Binah (= "Understanding"). A Sorcerer or a Black Magician - like Crowley said in MWT - is hardly a distant cousin of the Black Brother but I think that here is a problem of getting lost into the Abyss of words and terminology. I think it is essential to see that whether if one is categorized as a Sorcerer, Black Magician or a Left Hand Path- Initiate and one invokes Choronzon – seeing it to be some sort of an "Initiator" [*sic!*] – then one will destroy oneself anyway no matter ones category of "craft" even if one would not yet be so high in ones initiatory journey as to be an "Adeptus Exemptus 7○ = 4□". I don't disagree with Crowley that it is so but I think it is a this point necessary to be reminded of the timely context when Crowley lived and to compare it to where we are living now in 2013 e.v. Despite the fact that the "*New Aeon*" was on its way during Crowley's lifetime I think that it's so much further right now. It says on the Introduction to the Book of the Law that…

"Consider the outcrop of dictatorships, only possible when moral growth is in its earliest stages, and the prevalence of infantile cults like Communism, Fascism, Pacifism, Health Crazes, ***Occultism in nearly all its forms****, religions sentimentalised to the point of practical extinction…" – IV: The New Aeon*

This (the **blackened** part of the quote) I have noticed to be very striking on modern Zeitgeist. When trying to express my point in a nutshell it would be something like that there was no Chaos-Gnostic Anti-Cosmic Satanistic Philosophy around when Crowley lived. This is meaningful in this context only because the philosophy of MLO/TBOL is very unique in my opinion. So, I would differentiate it from the more traditional and commonly known expressions of Black Magic with which Crowley was more or less familiar with during his lifetime and of which he wrote every here and then like in

books such as "*Liber ABA*" and the previously mentioned "*Magick Without Tears*". I am not sure if Crowley was able to foretell that which kind of "spiritual suicide" philosophies would ensue later on as a symptom as a cause of the collective "Occultism Madness" of which almost everyone wants to have their share – in one form or another, whether it's "Occult Music" or Occultism in practice. You get the point. I think that the Chaos-Gnostic Anti-Cosmic Satanic philosophy is one example of this kind of dangerous philosophies which works – I would dare to say – as a "shortcut" or a portal to the Abyss. For the least they make it harder to cross the Abyss later since there are a lot of pre-work to be done before that and I think that for the least the philosophy of MLO/TOBL takes the Initiate to an downward road. It may be in the best case possible to lift oneself back where one was and higher but this will demand work against the regressing effect of the Anti-Cosmic "Initiatory" [*sic!*] current. When it comes to the Left-Hand Path-definition and to its problems I first need to mention that in many cases there has been a lot of problems in defining the Left- and the Right Hand Path without any controversy or clash of opinions. In some cases the scholars have satisfied in using generic definitions, mostly to avoid confusion. The Left- and the Right Hand Path have their origins in Tantric roots. I am not an expert on this area. I feel free to let the reader make his-/her own study on this matter if he-/he so wills. I am bringing these points up only to remind the reader that there are many valid viewpoints on how to view those two previously mentioned paths and this had led to strong clashing every here and then. Being conscious of this it is easier to view all that with calm and understanding and not to be taken by a storm which would devour one's mind constantly with a new definition to replace the old one.

Now you can continue without a fear of "*Thelema-/Crowley-overload*". I have been trying to keep this text different from the typical Thelema-/Crowley-influenced texts trying to keep it understandable even for someone who hasn't read Crowley's texts but I took freedom to digress for a bit since I found the above information to be necessary for the reader.

Chaos, Chaos, Chaos

"You need chaos in your soul to give birth to a dancing star" – Friedrich Nietzsche

But since Nietzsche and this particular quote are so often quoted in so many places what does this "Chaos" actually mean? Can it mean something specific and then as a cause not mean something else? This was a rhetoric question of course. I will analyse and philosophise it a little bit.

I think it is essential to differentiate between different kinds of chaoses and between different "degrees" or aspects of chaos. I am bringing them up for practical reasons. I know that they are more or less mingled in some cases but in this context I think it is suitable to differentiate between at least these chaoses since their confusion can bring errors in ones trail of thought:

1.) The Butterfly-effect Chaos/Cosmic Chaos (which is also the source of Chaos Magick)

2.) Anti-Cosmic Chaos of MLO/TOBL (Cosmos being made of "the Flesh of Tiamat" and of "the blood of Kingu" in the Sumerian creation myth Enuma Elish)

3.) The creative principle of Man ("*Chiah*" = The life force in the structure of Man/Chokmah Qabalistically which is also known as "*Chaos*")

4.) Disorder (The opposite of Order. The usual philosophical error is to confuse Chaos with this)

Early on I found it essential to differentiate between disorder and chaos. Chaos would be the nothingness and potential for the states of order and disorder to manifest. That is the non-manifested state instead of the manifested state.

Different and alternative views of the Universe

When it comes to the view of the Universe that the Chaos-Gnostic Satanism holds I find my criticism of it to become not only a criticism of their worldview but to become a criticism of Gnosticism alone also. This is of course due to the fact that their world view is Gnostic as previously mentioned and Anti-Cosmic. Personally I agree with the Chaos-Gnostics that yes, the world is full of illusion but that is nothing and no one to be mad at. One may reach such a high level of illumination that one will in the end penetrate the "cosmic lie" and duality that is not a "lie" at all since the world of duality is here to teach us about the infinite, eternal world and not to deceive us. "The fall from Eden" - understood esoterically/symbolically, not literally - was necessary for mankind to be able to reach towards Godhead. Duality is necessary for anything to manifest. I also don't think that those who hate the world are above it but rather they are usually the biggest slaves of matter themselves. I mean, why hate it if you are free from it? It is easy to delude oneself in thinking that one is hating not out of slavery to the matter but out of love to the primal KAOS. I think that it is very rarely the case even though one may go far in deceiving him-/herself it to be so and even if it be so it does not exclude the

matter-slavery and its higher rank in the hierarchy of affecting aspects in ones list of reasons in why one is doing something. If one has reached a high level of an actual illumination one can at least most of the time and in most cases laugh in and at this world and not to hate it. What can I say? Relax! And stop taking yourself so damn seriously, o thou mighty messenger of primal Chaos or whatever you wish yourself to be called. Sometimes I drift into thinking that "anti-cosmic" is actually a mistyping of "anti-COMIC". For many people this chaos wouldn't be important at all as an absolute value if it wouldn't serve as a tool to colour and "crown" their stupidities and do-what-I-wants with some false "anti-cosmic gold".

The principle of Destruction

On the practical side of the Chaos-Gnostic Anti-Cosmic Satanic philosophy the role and "use" of Gods concentrates only to those Gods that cultivate the principle of destruction. I think this is in a sense logical since the "gods" in general the way they are introduced describe specific forces of nature and their active processes, their names being the formulas to use their forces. This means to me that they are using their own destructive impulses esoterically via magical means by using certain divinities that they already are familiar with or can become familiar with. I could criticize them though that they are taking all these gods kind of out of their original context. Certain thoughts arise in me:

Maybe if they really had the self-knowledge of Seth they would realize how they mirror and see their own imperfections in their surroundings?

Maybe if they actually confronted the wrath of Shiva it would banish away all the impurities from their hybris-full and infantile thought?

Maybe if they actually had the intelligence of Lucifer they would realize where they had gone wrong?

Maybe it's worth mentioning here that they for example say that for them Lucifer has nothing to do with the planet Venus as a "Morning Star" as is usually being thought in many other contexts. They take the pieces of the Gods that please them and use them for their own agendas. Maybe I should say that it's not "Lucifer's fault" that they do things in his name that they do like it isn't Jesus' fault that the crusades were done in the Middle-Ages. I think the use of Gods like this is very questionable and

I will let the reader make his own mind about if this would satisfy his/her enquiring mind. I personally wouldn't be satisfied with some "partial-stripped down-Lucifer" where you need to close your right eye and to look at your God with only your left eye (pun intended). The point being made I think it's time to move onto the next chapter.

The dynamics of hope and giving up

The title of chapter has a bit of a sentimental twist in it. What I try to express in this chapter is mostly about the dynamics of hope and giving up concerning mankind since I think that it has a central and vital role in occultism and in the process around which it is culminated in Initiates work, in the Great Work (lat. "*Magnum Opus*"). The concept of True Will is based on doing the right thing for ALL so the aspiration towards doing it also kind of concerns the way you view everyone else. The point is that you do the best for yourself and for everyone else if you do your True Will. Sometimes if one has experienced a lot of bad things by others one may at weak moments drift into thinking something like:

Why should I need to push so much and challenge myself so much as others just do whatever they want and don't care about others?"

"Is it rightful that I can now also do bad things for others?

The human mind sometimes works in a way that it looks at justice and karma in a "tit-for-tat" way like Aleister Crowley well expressed it and things don't work that way like he also said. As cliché as it may sound everyone will get what they deserve in the end since the Nature is just and neutral in its "judgements", in cause and reason, which is the definition of Karma. A lot of what Nature does is just where the human eye cannot see so many people in their ignorance deny that the nature functions in that way at all. The practicing occultist has noticed that it is so in his/her active observations - both internally and externally. Maybe this is the one of the reasons why one of the core teachings in the teachings of Hermes Trismegistus is that Universal law of "*As above, so below"*.

I think that many if not most of the occultists (or actually all mankind) are constantly facing the question of how much to believe in mankind. "*Is there any hope left?*" is the main question. In metal circles it is very common and popular to just say in all radicalism and extremity that there is no hope

left and what one wishes is just Armageddon as soon as possible and this might occasionally be decorated with some pseudo-intellectual arguments on why this would be the only rational [*sic!*] solution to go with. The opinion also goes well along with the lyrics of the band they're in because it's not always so popular to sing about hope in mankind's destiny. Divine judgements from someone who doesn't know him-/herself and has drank beer more times than he/she has practised meditation. Way to go, metalheads.

It is at times CHALLENGING to believe in mankind. That's why many don't do it because they don't wish to challenge themselves.

It is easy to argue and to avoid this by saying that "*It's not mine but mankind's fault*" but it is not so. One can avoid these challenges and questions by just giving up. It is easy. This kind of desperation towards mankind in general will usually "justify" much worse behaviour from oneself than in a case where there is still hope left in one's mind and space for idealism. Also some forms of Nihilism might arise as a symptom for the state of "no-hope-left". One will face many facts of mankind and go through different opinions along the years many times depending on the amount and quality of the information being received by the brain but just creating a negative-oriented reality tunnel of the whole mankind is pathetic and not truthful, I would say. Like said: it's easy - but infantile. Many times it is also so that the hater him-/herself is some pseudo-elitist Nietzsche expert-wannabe who him-/herself gives more reasons for anyone to hate him/her than anyone has ever given to him/her. So that's sort of a hypocrite way to act. If you just hate all mankind why should anyone even be bothered to give you pleasure? At least many others still try to work things out and to come along. It´s pathetic to just start hating and causing chaos on Earth. What it will in the end do will be the destruction of those who try to do it. It's just more tempting to think otherwise. Many times in metal circles it's just so much about the show whereas in occultism it at least OUGHT TO BE about how things are in truth.

This sure looks cool but many people are only interested about the way things look and not about the way they actually are under the surface. The question goes: This looks cool, but is it cool (as a whole)?

When still trying to stay in topic I could connect what I have written around the Chaos-Gnostic Philosophy and say that obviously the Initiates of MLO/TOBL have given up on mankind. They don't believe in it. This makes them look – in a weird way - pretty cute in my eyes. It sounds pretty hilarious to think of a Dr. Phil-kind of guy sympathizing an Anti-Cosmic person with some kitchen psychological words like "*Maybe you have just lost your faith on mankind as a cause for bad experiences?*" but I think it might be so in some cases since they are still but humans, no matter how much they invoke or evoke their gods. It might not be comforting for an Anti-Cosmic Ego to think things from this perspective, though, but for an occultist it is essential and central to think of ones motives. How one has come here? Why is everything happening? Right now I am not sure where I am going with this text but you see my point. The intention of everything is a central concept in serious occultism so it is necessary to cleanse the intention(s) and this requires serious and critical

self-observation, analysis and contemplation of ones wishes and of oneself in general and as a whole. I am not always sure if the Initiates of MLO/TBOL have done the ground work of Occultism and built the foundation. It is of course common to glorify Jon's suicide but someone else could as well say that it might have been a self-built illusion – a parade of Choronzon – where he was stuck in, seeing "victory" everywhere. This is very typical for the Initiates of the Black School of Magic. They declare their victory everywhere, no matter if the loss is obvious (one can psychologize if this is done again out of insecurity. Make your own conclusions). See again the previously quoted piece of lyrics from the song "*Night's Blood*". The question is: If you remove all the glamour and decoration from the Anti-Cosmic Chaos-Gnostic Satanistic philosophy of MLO/TBOL what will remain in the end? Not enough for me to choose it. One is not stupid in not choosing it for ones way of life. One is not "weak" or "unintelligent" or anything like that, at least as a direct cause for rejecting it or if one is then one is so caused by other reasons. Instead I think one is wise in rejecting not to be taken by in the end unimportant and temporary aspects of life which come and go. For me it seems that The Initiates of MLO/TBOL are quite-okay-would-be-real-Magicians who have chosen a downward-taking path and that their philosophy is a syncretistic Satanic Cut-and-Paste-balderdash without a meaningful unity which would actually help to lift oneself to the heights of Infinity which they claim to possess and take over through their system of Initiation. While I certainly am not against syncretism *per se* – rather the opposite – I am highly conscious that in such as compositions there is many times a danger and a possibility that the unity is missing from the whole. "The Broken Star" (See again the previously quoted piece of lyrics from the song "*Starless Aeon*" by Dissection) is a broken star indeed – not a liberated star. "*Anti-Cosmic Metal of Death*" (= Da'ath) may be the answer and a door to those who wish but Death and I think that Choronzon would be very glad of this reasoning and about the fact that their logic has become muddled. In Metal "community" there is a lot of incomplete and imperfect reasoning around. Many people seem to think that to sink into the Abyss would be the portal to illumination. I think that many practicing occultists would disagree with this, like I. I think this may be partly due to the over-stressed emotional orientation instead of a well-ordered balanced between that and the rational and a more thoughtful approach. I mean… Have you ever seen a typical metalhead on a gig? It is psychologically very hard to admit that what first seemed cool might not necessarily be so wise to choose after all. People want to find something to give themselves to and in many cases rarely turn back from that path once they **THINK** they have found something all-the-way-suitable for themselves. I think that the Chaos-Gnostic Satanistic Philosophy has many of these elements. Hence its popularity in the Metal Scene since 2006 e.v.

My final thoughts are: It indeed does take - without any hesitation I say this - courage and strength to follow this “Burning Path” like it would take “courage” and “strength” to commit a suicide. There is courage of wisdom and courage of folly. Are those attributes worthy of being used in this context? Do you follow me? It is not heroic but only foolish to give oneself for logically stupid ideologies and it does not matter or make any difference if the logic is obvious and an easy one or if one has to cut one’s way through the jungle through complicated esoteric thought to see/show why it is so like I have done in this text. The Black Magicians tried to fool me with their complicated texts but my mind and consciousness being familiar with all things esoteric I was able to resist folly in wisdom’s clothes by explaining what many were not able to understand and/or put in words. I do not agree with the fact that strength or weakness would be the essential factors - alongside the existence or absence of the “*Black Flame*” - determining the success or failure on this Path but instead think that there are many other even more essential factors to consider in defining spiritual fulfilment and that even “success” on this path is from my perspective only a failure in disguise. The Spirit does not break free from its shackles/cosmic prison and return to primal Kaos and one’s Black Flame does not remain as a single unit but one’s whole being is destroyed in the Abyss and (I hope I do not begin to sound too theosophical in this…) the Monad loses its connecting link with which it could manifest itself in the Universe. It may be romantic to think otherwise though but the World does not always work the same way that it works in the role-playing games: Sorry (See again the previously given advice: “Grow up.” if you subconsciously happen to think otherwise, act accordingly). I think this path leads downwards – no matter the strength, no matter the existence of Black Flame, no matter the magical skill – and (many, yet not all) reasons for this have been given in this text.

FINIS.